because of geological problems encountered during the execution of the project and the constraint of resources.

Power crisis in Andhra Pradesh

*107. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the 'Deccan Chronicle' dated the 10th April, 1988, wherein it has been stated that there is a power crisis in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to ease the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There is a power shortage in Andhra Pradesh which, during 1987-88, was about 12 per cent. The power shortage is mainly due to a shortfall in hydel generation due to low reservoir levels in the State. To meet the power shortage, Andhra Pradesh has, *inter alia* imposed power cuts, peak load restrictions and load shedding on industries and supply of power to agricultural consumers has been regulated. The Central Government has allocated to Andhra Pradesh, 25 per cent of the unallocated share of power at its disposal from Central sector projects in the Southern region. In addition, assistance from neighbouring systems of Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu is being provided to Andhra Pradesh to the maximum extent possible.

Capacity of Koyali Refinery

*108. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the refining capacity of Koyali refinery is being increased; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) The capacity of Koyali Refinery is being increased from 7.3 MMTPA to 9.5 MMTPA by debottlenecking the existing crude units at an estimated cost of about Rs. 27 crores and this is expected to be completed by July, 1988.

PFY production by M/s. Petrofils Cooperative Ltd.

*110. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the date of commissioning of Polyester Filament Yarn plant of M/s. Petrofils Cooperative Limited with initial licenced capacity;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Company expanded its capacity to 7000 tonnes per annum;

(c) whether the Company took Government's permission to expand its capacity; if so, when; and

(d) the actual production of Polyester Filament Yarn by the Company during the last three years, yearwise?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Petrofils Cooperative Limited (PCL) commenced production of Polyester Filament Yarn (PFY) on 3-12-1977 against the initial licensed capacity of 3500 tonnes per annum.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir; the Industrial Licence for expanded capacty of 7,000 tonnes/ annum was issued to the Company on 4-9-1981.

(d) The actual production of PFY by PCL during the last 3 cooperative years (July—June) was 7981 MT in 1984-85, 8445 MT in 1985-86 and 8721 MT in 1986-87.

Oil Exploration

*112. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that oil accumulations have been detected at the base in the Bombay off shore area;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what steps are being taken to explore it;

(c) what steps Government propose to take for indigenous exploration in the field of oil; and

(d) what are the areas where Government have explored oil indigenously together with the areas where foreign contracts have been signed for exploration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Oil has been discovered in the basement of Bombay High field in well BH-36. During initial testing the well flowed oil at the rate of 1000 barrels per day through 1/2" choke. However, after stabilisation, he flow rate was 460 BOPD and 38807 cubic meters per day of gas.

Four more exploratory locations have been released for exploration in Bombay High basement. Beside this, five vertical wells from platfrom are planned to be deepened for exploring basement. In addition to Bombay High, it is also proposed to drill one exploratory location in Heera and deepen two vertical wells from two plaforms in Bassein field to test the potentiality of the basement.

(c) Exploration for hydrocarbons by Oil and Natural Gas Commission and Oil India Limited is a continuous process.

(d) Exploration work has been carried out in different parts of—

ON LAND

—Assam

—Tripura

—Mizoram

—Nagaland

—Arunachal Pradesh

—Bengal

—Gujarat

—Rajasthan

—Jammu & Kashmir

—Bihar

—Himachal Pradesh

—Punjab

—Haryana

—Uttar Pradesh

—Madhya Pradesh

—Orissa

—Tamil Nadu

—Andhra Pradesh

OFF SHORE

—Eastern Coast

—Western Coast

—Andamans.

Government, Oil and Natural Gas Commission and Oil India Limited have signed six contracts with foreign oil companies for exploration and explo-